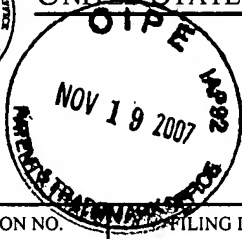




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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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10/808,950

03/25/2004

Edward O. Clapper

INT-22

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7590

10/29/2007

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HOUSTON, TX 77058

EXAMINER

ULRICH, NICHOLAS S

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2173

MAIL DATE

DELIVERY MODE

10/29/2007

PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

DETAILED ACTION

1. Claims 1-19 and 21-25 are pending.
2. Claims 1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 11, 13, 14, 17, 19, 21, 22, 23, 24, and 25 have been amended
3. Claims 20, 26, and 27 have been cancelled.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. Claims 11 and 12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Shyu (US 7100068 B2) in view of DE 20315282 U.

Reference, DE 20315282 U, will be referred to as *Derwent* throughout the action.

In regard to claim 11, Shyu discloses a performance control apparatus, comprising:

a selector for designating one of several settings in a processor-based system, wherein each setting is associated with one or more performance-related criteria of the processor-based system (Column 2 lines 54-58: selector unit, with multiple adjustment stages);

and a display comprising an indicator, wherein the indicator visually conveys a relative performance value for the processor-based system (Column 3 lines 8-17).

While Shyu teaches a selector for modifying a processor clock rate, they fail to show the plurality of selectors as recited in the claims. Derwent teaches a selector similar to that of Shyu. In addition, Derwent further teaches a selector for modifying a fan speed (See abstract/novelty). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art, having the teachings of Shyu and Derwent before him at the time the invention was made, to modify the system taught by Shyu to include the selector of Derwent, in order to obtain a plurality of selectors for modifying performance related criteria of a processor based system. It would have been advantageous for one to utilize such a combination so the user can set the speed so that adequate cooling is achieved without excessive noise, as taught by Derwent (Abstract/advantage).

In regard to claim 12, Shyu discloses a first label and a second label, the first and second labels being disposed adjacent to the selector, wherein the first label designates a minimum setting of the selector and the second label designates a maximum setting of the selector (*Column 3 lines 28-37: The use of speed bars is used as a label to specify minimum and maximum values for the selector. When using the selector to increase a value, speedbars will be added up to 10, to indicate 10 is the maximum setting. Likewise, decreasing value will deduct speedbars, until the minimum setting of 1 bar is displayed. Therefore 1 bar labels minimum setting and 10 bars labels maximum setting*).

5. Claims 13, 14, 15, 16, and 18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Shyu in view of DE 20315282 U and Sato (US 6627829 B2).

In regard to claim 13 and 16, Shyu fails to disclose further comprising a plurality of light-emitting diodes, the plurality of light-emitting diodes being disposed adjacent to the selector, wherein one or more of the plurality of light-emitting diodes changes to a first color when the selector is not at the minimum setting and wherein the light emitting diodes change to a second color.

However, Sato discloses a plurality of light-emitting diodes, the plurality of light-emitting diodes being disposed adjacent to the selector, wherein one or more of the plurality of light-emitting diodes changes to a first color when the selector is not at the minimum setting (*Abstract and Column 5 lines 1-15*) and changes to a second color (*Column 2 lines 40-47*). Although Shyu does not disclose a plurality of led's adjacent the selector, Shyu does disclose an indicator to determine the setting of the selector (*Column 3 lines 28- 37: The speedbar is used to show the selection of the selector*). Therefore, Shyu shows motivation towards Sato's invention for including an indicator to show selection of the selector. The use of a speedbar is merely a design choice by Shyu.

Therefore, at the time of the invention it would have been obvious to one skilled in the art to combine the teachings of Sato with Shyu's invention in order to provide led's that indicate the selection of the selector.

In regard to claim 14, the combination of Shyu and Derwent, as discussed in the rejection of claim 11, results in two selectors. The first selector, taught by Shyu, controls the processor clock rate. The second selector, taught by Derwent, controls the fan speed (*See rejections of claim 11 for reference citations*).

In regard to claim 15, Shyu discloses wherein the processor clock rate may exceed an optimum clock rate (*Column 3 lines 26- 35: Optimum clock rate is achieved in normal status, wherein the processor is run at its normal operational state. Therefore, when speeding up the processor past its normal status, it will exceed its optimal operational state*).

In regard to claim 18, Shyu discloses wherein the display further comprises a second indicator, wherein the second indicator visually conveys processor temperature (*Column 3 lines 10-17*).

Allowable Subject Matter

6. Claim 1-10 and 21-25 are allowed.
7. Claims 17 and 19 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Reasons for Allowable Subject Matter

8. Independent claim 1 recites the limitation "a performance control application program with a graphical user interface, the graphical user interface comprising at least one application program selector associated with an application program loaded in the processor-based system, wherein the application program selector is adjustable between a second minimum setting and a second maximum setting; wherein the at least one application program selector enables a user to modify the one or more performance criteria during operation of the application program". While the cited prior art reference, Cline et al. (US 5550970), discloses a user interface that comprises an application program selector for adjusting between a minimum and maximum setting, they fail to disclose allowing the user to modify one or more performance criteria. Cline invention is directed towards allocating the amount of RAM usage for each application running on the system, however, the claim recites that performance criteria includes, processor clock rate, fan speed, and disk usage. Cline fails to teach modifying clock rate, fan speed, or disk usage.

A detailed search of the prior art was performed and no significant sources were located that teach or suggest the above cited limitation of claim 1. Therefore claim 1, and all dependent claims 2-10 are allowable over the prior art.

9. Independent claims 21 and 24 recite similar features, as discussed in independent claim 1, and is allowable over the prior art for the same reasons. Claims 22, 23, and 25 depend from allowable independent claims 21 and 24.

10. Dependent claim 17 is allowable over the prior art because no teaching or motivation could be found in the art that discloses controlling both the processor clock rate and the fan speed simultaneously with one selector.

11. Dependent claim 19 is allowable over the prior art because no teaching or motivation could be found that discloses using a selector to adjust between an application program being executed from the disk drive and being executed from a volatile memory.

Response to Arguments

12. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 11, 12, 13-16, 17, 18, and 19 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

13. Applicant's arguments, see Remarks, filed 8/18/2007, with respect to claims 1-10 and 21-25 have been fully considered and are persuasive.

Conclusion

14. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within **TWO MONTHS** of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the **THREE-MONTH** shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than **SIX MONTHS** from the date of this final action.

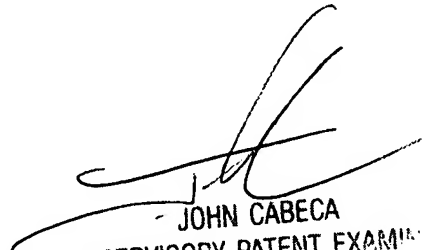
15. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Nicholas S. Ulrich whose telephone number is 571-270-1397. The examiner can normally be reached on M-TH 9:00 - 5:00 EST.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John Cabeca can be reached on 571-272-4048. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Art Unit: 2173

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Nicholas Ulrich
10/23/2007
2173



JOHN CABECA
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2173

Notice of References Cited	Application/Control No. 10/808,950	Applicant(s)/Patent Under Reexamination CLAPPER, EDWARD O.	
	Examiner Nicholas S. Ulrich	Art Unit 2173	Page 1 of 1

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

*		Document Number Country Code-Number-Kind Code	Date MM-YYYY	Name	Classification
	A	US-			
	B	US-			
	C	US-			
	D	US-			
	E	US-			
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FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

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	O					
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	Q					
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	S					
	T					

NON-PATENT DOCUMENTS

*		Include as applicable: Author, Title Date, Publisher, Edition or Volume, Pertinent Pages)
	U	DE 20315282, Cooling fan for computer, 2/5/2004, Derwent Information LTD
	V	
	W	
	X	

*A copy of this reference is not being furnished with this Office action. (See MPEP § 707.05(a).)
Dates in MM-YYYY format are publication dates. Classifications may be US or foreign.

DERWENT-ACC-NO: 2004-192836

DERWENT-WEEK: 200419

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TITLE: Cooling fan e.g. for computer, has rotation speed control circuitry, and rotary knob or pushbutton attached to outside of cooling fan to allow user to control speed directly

PATENT-ASSIGNEE: ENERMAX TECHNOLOGY CORP[ENERN]

PRIORITY-DATA: 2003DE-2015282 (October 6, 2003)

PATENT-FAMILY:

PUB-NO	PUB-DATE	LANGUAGE	PAGES	MAIN-IPC
DE <u>20315282</u> U1	February 5, 2004	N/A	009	F04D 027/00

APPLICATION-DATA:

PUB-NO	APPL-DESCRIPTOR	APPL-NO	APPL-DATE
DE 20315282U1	N/A	2003DE-2015282	October 6, 2003

INT-CL (IPC): F04D027/00, F04D029/00 , H05K007/20

ABSTRACTED-PUB-NO: DE 20315282U

BASIC-ABSTRACT:

NOVELTY - The cooling fan (1) has a rotation speed controller comprising electronic components mounted on the circuit board (13) of the cooling fan. A rotary knob or pushbutton (16) for the rotation speed control is attached to the outside of the cooling fan (1), so that the user can set the speed of the fan directly using the knob or pushbutton.

USE - For cooling a computer, electronic cabinet, power supply, peripheral device etc.

ADVANTAGE - The user can set the speed so that adequate cooling is achieved without excessive noise.

DESCRIPTION OF DRAWING(S) - The drawing shows an exploded view of the fan.

Cooling fan 1

Circuit board 13

Rotary knob. 16

CHOSEN-DRAWING: Dwg.1/3

**TITLE-TERMS: COOLING FAN COMPUTER ROTATING SPEED CONTROL CIRCUIT
ROTATING KNOB**

PUSHBUTTON ATTACH COOLING FAN ALLOW USER CONTROL SPEED

DERWENT-CLASS: Q56 T01 V04 V06 X25

EPI-CODES: T01-L02A; V04-T03B1; V06-M20; V06-N; V06-U04D; X25-L04;

SECONDARY-ACC-NO:

Non-CPI Secondary Accession Numbers: N2004-153011

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